

Approved 4/24/17

TOWN OF HAMPDEN, MASSACHUSETTS
BOARD OF SELECTMEN/BOARD OF HEALTH
MINUTES

January 17, 2017
6:00 pm

625 Main Street
Hampden MA

Board Members: John D. Flynn, Norman Charest, Vincent J. Villamaino
Guest: Tyler Witkop, Editor, Wilbraham Hampden Times

Building Inspector: Wendel Hulbert came before the board to discuss first his budget and other issues. John had asked that Wendel do some research on zoning and how many hours of the week are attributed to zoning compliance issues. Currently, Wendel is paid for 24 hours a week, but an additional 10 hours per week would be needed for the Zoning Officer position. John said they would like at the budget for two separate positions for the coming fiscal year. The rest of the budget presented was fine but Wendel is looking for some help in determining the appropriate position that best fits the work that his assistant is doing. The board suggested that any issues regarding step and grade had to be taken up with the Personnel Committee. Norman offered his help to Wendel to determine the best approach with the Personnel Committee.

Wendel offered that although Madeline works 14 hours a week, she holds the department together. The board supports Wendel going forward with a meeting with Personnel to discuss grade and assessment of the job she currently does.

On another matter, a resident had asked for information relative to new homes, construction permits issued, etc. Wendel explained that this information had been previously given to this resident, but the resident has come looking for the information again. The board instructed Wendel to give the information as requested and to leave it at that.

Highway Superintendent: Mark Langone came before the board to discuss an issue previously raised by the Board of Selectmen; when they suggested that Highway Department members train to become daytime volunteers for the Fire Department since they are working in town every day.

Mark told the board that although he wants to be a team player, he has no interest in being a fire fighter. He enjoys the aspects of his job that include water and sewer (maybe in the future) and building as well as his other functions of the job. He explained that when the article was in the newspaper that his department members voiced the same opinion; they are not interested in training to be firefighters.

The board responded that they acknowledge the department's position in this matter and said they as a board they have to seek all avenues to find a solution to this issue.

John interjected that he had met with Mark Barba, member of the fire department and they will work on grant writing for the department. This will not come in until the end of the calendar year and these grants are written/designed for firefighters to complete. Vinnie asked what happens when the grant runs out. The response was that a committee will need to review where the department will go in the future and how they will get there.

Mark continued with his list of items to discuss and next was the status of the Laughing Brook Bridge. Mark spoke with an inspector from the state and found that we will not be eligible for reimbursement for any work we do. We will be on a 2 year inspection cycle from this point forward, and the cement work that needs to be shored up can be done by the highway department.

The discussion turned to the hook up of town supplied water from the well at the Highway Department to the house at 593-595 owned by Mark Ogoley. According to the agreement, the town must have the work completed by February 3rd. Mark Langone is continuing to do his site research prior to bringing the line down from the highway well and will schedule the work to be completed by January 27th.

Mark also mentioned that the ten year cycle of DOT funding will be running out this year and a new ten year contract will be executed for the future. There is also a new "complete streets" program coming out that deals with the street from the shoulder out and could include sidewalks and other items.

One Day License for Senior Center: A request came in for a one day license for the gala opening of the Scantic Valley Artisans on Saturday, January 21st from 1 pm to 5 pm. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

One Day License: The Hampden Theater Guild will be holding a fund raising event at the Senior Center dubbed "Dancing With the Stars". A request has been made by the Theater Guild for a one day permit for the event.

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission Minutes: The board reviewed the minutes from their meeting with the PVPC when they discussed moving forward with the Block Grant application. A motion was made by Norman Charest to approve the minutes as presented, seconded by Vinnie Villamaino. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Minutes: The minutes of November 28, December 5, December 12, and January 3 were not reviewed.

Capital Planning Appointments: The board discussed the appointments to the Capital Planning Committee. There were two recommendations from the Advisory Board, Heather Turcotte and Matt Fisher. The committee is also made up of 3 community at large members. The board recommended Don Collins and Pamela Rogers. Two other members are ex officio appointments, (which means they don't have voting rights) and they are Town Accountant, Cliff

Bombard and Town Treasurer, Dick Patullo. After some discussion, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to appoint Heather Turcotte, Matt Fisher, Don Collins and Pamela Rogers to staggered terms on the Capital Planning Committee, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Water Resolution: Note that the tie in must be completed by February 3 for the Ogoley property.

Peterson Agreement: The board signed the agreement between Mahlon and Amelia Peterson and the town regarding the water situation. Once fully executed the town will issue a check to the Peterson's to finalize the agreement.

GASB proposal for FY18: Due to John's absence when this was voted on, he signed the proposal to start the process for the coming fiscal year.

Easement Agreement with Church: An agreement between the Federated Church and Mahlon and Amelia Peterson has not yet been signed. This will be followed up on by John Flynn.

Board of Health Variance: The applicant from 536 Glendale Road has requested a variance for a reduction in the setback from the system to the well, from 100' to 65'. A motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to approve the variance as presented, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Budget Reviews: The board will schedule budget reviews with the Council on Aging, the Police and Highway in the coming weeks. The meeting to discuss the Fire Department will be determined by people's availability.

With no further business, a motion was made by Vinnie Villamaino to adjourn at 7:00 pm, seconded by Norman Charest. VOTE: All in favor and so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela B Courtney
Administrative Assistant

/pbc